

MORE BLUNDERS.

Petersburg Index Appeal, Democratic.
It is a great pity that Secretary Manning could not go through the form of tendering his resignation to the President without a labeled and unfortunate disquisition on politics. His argument for free trade is a gross blunder, unless it was meant to help the administration, even when retiring from it, to kill the Democratic party.

"All our needful customs revenue," says he, "might be collected by strictly revenue duties upon a few score of articles." This is going back to "tariff for revenue only" of 1850, which the Democratic party itself did not dare to in the platform of 1884 upon which it nominated Cleveland and Hendricks. "Strictly revenue duties and a tariff for revenue only" are identical propositions, and Mr. Manning goes beyond the charter of the administration of which he is a member when he declares for either of these. And who should be qualified our "needful revenue" by inserting the word "customs"? "All our needful customs revenue" means that the Democratic party, as far as Mr. Manning can, commit it and the present administration, has departed finally from the policy of a federal revenue exclusively desired from customs.

It means that, in Mr. Manning's view, the Democratic party is henceforth to deal largely and progressively in internal taxation; and it further means that in his opinion the needful customs revenues should be reduced *passim*; that the imposition of "needful internal revenue."

Perhaps Secretary Manning speaks for this administration. At all events, the President says nothing to the contrary in his response to the Secretary's letter of resignation. He speaks, too, no doubt, for Messrs. Carlisle and Morrison and the Democrats who follow the lead of those two free trade apostles. But he is hardly the true exponent of the Democratic party, as that party has been vouchered for in this latitude for some years past; and he certainly does not voice the opinion of the Democratic people, particularly of Virginia and the south. Every breeze that sweeps from this section of the land should bear to his ear the resounding cry for "protection" and that other no less vociferous cry for the abolition of the internal revenue system. Upon these two things the people of the south are "solid," without regard to race, color or party; and as the Democratic party is so dependent on the south, it bodes no good for the national Democracy when a member of the President's Cabinet, without rebuke from the President, John Carlisle and Morrison in the old Henri Waterson demand for a "tariff for revenue only," further limited to "needful customs revenue."

It would have been better, too, in consideration of the course pursued by the President and his Secretary of the Treasury in regard to silver, for Mr. Manning to have been utterly quiet on that score. In this region the doctrines of Wall Street are not popular, and the gold bug is not regarded as a desirable specimen.

But Mr. Manning has been ill, and he is yet far from being well. The Democratic party itself is also sick. Neither Cleveland's bitters nor Morrison's pills have conduced to its health. Yet we trust that the Secretary may soon regain his health; and we should have a like faith in Democratic recuperation, if only the quacks would let it alone for awhile. The natural vigor of the Democratic constitution is great; but the most robust organization must succumb to mere empirical treatment, if it be not relieved in time from the infection.

A meeting of the field officers of the Virginia regiments was held in Richmond a few days ago for the purpose of discussing and arranging matters in reference to the equipment of State troops proposed to be held in Richmond during the fair. The outcome of the conference was a decision that the equipment scheme was impracticable, the time selected—the autumn—being a busy season in commercial circles, rendering it impossible for a large majority of the volunteers to give their time conveniently to military matters. It was further decided to divide the funds which would have been used for the equipment (the State appropriation) between the thirty-four white and nineteen colored companies of the State, with the stipulation that they be used by each command either for uniforms or for camping purposes.

The Agricultural Department, in its report of the condition of the wheat supply up to July 1, 1886, gives it at 100,000,000 bushels, with a surplus from last year's crop of 68,000,000. Since then considerable damage has been realized from the extreme heat of the weather in the Northwest, which is estimated will cause a reduction from this estimate of 50,000,000 bushels. The decrease of wheat acreage in India is estimated at 600,000, which would indicate a much smaller supply from that country than was realized last year. The latest advices from England are not favorable to the producers of that country, but as yet there has not been any marked change in the market price of wheat. Taking the outlook from all of the wheat growing world, and the promise is that there will be a larger demand for American wheat and that better prices will be the rule after the market has settled down.

Representative Curtin, the war Governor of Pennsylvania, has determined not to be a candidate for re-nomination.

THE COUNTRY SAFE.

We publish below a letter from Mr. Jacob Hines, Jr., which will not only relieve the minds of his "many anxious friends," but which is a water of such momentous interest to the public generally that our contemporary, the Woodstock Virginian, gives it a prominent place in its columns. Read this letter, and take comfort all you aspiring patriots. Its words are very cheering:

WASHINGTON, D. C., July 6, 1886.

Editor Virginian:—It is with pleasure that I write to inform my many anxious friends that I am now at work as Conductor on the Washington and Georgetown street car R. R., my position having been secured me by the kindness of Hon. Chas. T. O'Ferrall; notwithstanding the fact that some gentlemen of the "Woodstock Virginian" recently stated to me that I would get nothing but Promises.

Yours truly,
JACOB HINES, JR.

Now, in these days when "ways that are dark and tricks that are vain" prevail so often, suspicious people frequently look closely at private letters published in public newspapers, but in this case one glance is sufficient to disarm the most suspicious.

It is at once perfectly evident that the near approach of the Democratic Congressional convention has nothing to do with the writing of this letter to the Editor of the Virginian. Every body can see at a glance that Jacob Hines, Jr., kind hearted man that he is, is simply trying to relieve the minds of his too "anxious friends" of their intense anxiety concerning his welfare. This is why he mentions emphatically that the lucrative position which he is now so fortunate as to occupy was gotten for him through the heroic efforts of Hon. Charles T. O'Ferrall, and all this, too, notwithstanding the fact that the said Jacob Hines, Jr., would get nothing but "Promises."

Now while we are fully convinced, yes we may say overwhelmed, with the idea that Mr. Jacob Hines, Jr., wrote the above letter simply and solely to let his poor "anxious friends" know that he was safe yet, there may be some delegates to the Congressional convention who will understand more from that letter than Mr. Hines seems to intend them to do.

Some very ambitious and aspiring Democratic statesmen may see that by supporting Col. O'Ferrall they may yet get to be a conductor on some of the Washington or Georgetown street railways. It is our deliberate opinion, cautiously expressed, however, that the Hines letter will secure the Hon. C. T. O'Ferrall the nomination—*Spirit of The Valley*.

"Jeffersonian Simplicity."

Mr. Hepburn, of Iowa, criticised the items appropriating an aggregate of about \$20,000 for new furniture for the Executive Mansion, for the care of the greenhouses at the White House, and for general incidental expenses. What, asked he, could the present head of the Administration, wedded as he was to Jeffersonian simplicity, want with \$20,000 for furniture and flowers? The President would not tolerate such useless expenditure. It was known that when he nerved himself to the thankless duty of vetoing the pension bills of sixty destitute soldiers or widows he was constrained by his official duty, and forced by Jeffersonian simplicity. Yet those pension bills aggregated less than \$7,000, one fourth of the sum which this committee was trying to force upon him to expend for furniture and flowers.

Damp Wheat Not Wanted.

The following resolutions, recently passed by the Richmond grain exchange, will be of interest to our country friends:

Whereas the continued rain which, from the best information before us, extends over the greater portion of the State, is calculated to do serious injury to the wheat crop and cause the same to be shipped to market in damp and damaged condition, thus causing loss and serious inconvenience to all interested in handling the crop; therefore be it resolved by the Richmond Grain and Cotton Exchange, that we do hereby respectfully request not to thrash until their wheat has ample time, after the rain is over, to become thoroughly dry in the shock or stack, and thus insure its being sent to market in dry condition, when it will bring a better price, be more quickly handled, and give better satisfaction to all interested in its sale or manufacture.

It being a well-ascertained fact that wheat will dry in the shock more thoroughly in three five to days of good weather than in as many weeks after it has been threshed, we feel that it is greatly to the interest of farmers that they should not be threshed while damp, and the more especially so since drying in bulk is attended with much expense, labor, and inconvenience, while there are many who claim that wheat when threshed in damp weather is restored to its original quality by the effort to dry, but that each recurrence of long-continued wet weather will bring back upon it the evidence of dampness and its unsound or damaged smell.

Damp wheat has to be sold at from 10 to 25 cents per bushel less than was realized last year. The latest advices from England are not favorable to the producers of that country, but as yet there has not been any marked change in the market price of wheat. Taking the outlook from all of the wheat growing world, and the promise is that there will be a larger demand for American wheat and that better prices will be the rule after the market has settled down.

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THE DULANY CASE.

The case of H. G. Dulany vs. the State Board of Indemnity and the Treasurer of Shenandoah county, was concluded in the United States Circuit Court in Richmond, Judges Bond and Hughes, the jury rendering a verdict of \$252, the actual loss sustained by Mr. Dulany in the levy and sale of his stock. After the evidence was concluded and before argument was begun the court submitted the following instructions to the jury:

If the jury find from the evidence that the plaintiff in this action, being a citizen of Virginia, was indebted to the State in the sum of \$255 for taxes due upon the property owned by him in Shenandoah county in that State, and that in payment thereof he tendered to Koonz, the treasurer of the said county entitled to receive the same, coupons of the bonds of the State of Virginia receivable for the payment of the said taxes, and that the said Koonz, refused to receive the same in payment thereof, and that notwithstanding such tender, the defendant, Koonz, levied upon the property of the plaintiff, advertised and sold the same and so collected the tax; then the said Koonz was a trespasser, and is liable in damages to the said plaintiff for his trespass.

And if the jury find from the evidence in the case that the other defendants to this action, or either of them, advised and counseled the said Koonz to do the acts above described by advising him not to receive the said coupons but to make the said levy, with a promise of indemnification if he were molested in damages for his conduct knowing the assistance of counsel to defend him, then the said defendants are jointly and severally liable to the plaintiff for the damages alleged; and the jury may find such of the defendants guilty or not guilty as they may find they did or did not so advise, counsel and abet the above-mentioned trespass.

And the jury are instructed that it is the law of the land that, upon the tender of the tax-receivable coupons for the payment of taxes whether received or not, the taxes are paid and any levy upon the property of the tax-payer after such tender is a trespass (any State law to the contrary notwithstanding), for which damages are recoverable; and if the said levy is made with a knowledge at the time that it is illegal, while the tax-payer remonstrates that it is illegal and claims the protection of the law of the land, then the jury may find that the said levy is malicious and are not confined to giving actual damages, but may give punitive or exemplary damages, as they may find the facts to be.

During the argument, and as Mr. Royall was proceeding to attack the argument advanced by the Attorney-General, an exciting colloquy occurred. Mr. Royall was likening the doctrine advanced by Attorney-General Ayers to that advocated by Dennis Kearney and Spies, the Chicago anarchists, when the Attorney-General arose and said: "Mr. Royall, I cannot permit you to cast such a reflection as that, or I cannot permit without protest."

Mr. Royall said: "I do not propose to say anything disagreeable to you, but I do intend to attack the doctrine laid down by you yesterday as being identical in every respect to the doctrine of Herr Most and of the Chicago anarchists, and I do it with the most profound respect."

Mr. Royall then dwelt upon the remark made by the Attorney-General that "Mr. Dulany was a two-million-five-hundred thousand-dollar man," and held that the conclusion to be drawn from the remarks of the Attorney was that "a rich man is not to have the protection of the law."

The Attorney-General again arose and said: "Now, I want to say to you, my friend, that I said that that man was worth a great deal of money, and that his credit could not be affected. I said that the jury was bound to give him actual damages."

The colloquy here ended, and Mr. Royall proceeded to argue the legal points.

A Cashier's Confession.

Almon B. Thompson, the defendant cashier of the Provident Savings Bank, St. Louis, wrote a full confession of his crookedness and speculations before he fled, and placed it in the hands of a trusted friend. The cashier says: "In the bank the situation is this: There are a few thousands of dollars of what I owe the bank is hidden in the exchange maturing account. It will show instantly on examination. I owe on my notes \$25,000; I have indorsed all valid or valuable paper. Crystal City certificate is fraudulent, and on certificate of Provident Savings Bank stock for fifty shares is fraudulent. I collected \$425 of the art school subscription and used the money. I drew in my father's name, and the artist. He does not know it. He gave me a note for it and supposes it is a loan from me." Thompson then gives in detail his indebtedness to the bank, footing up about \$70,000. He then concludes: "I am alone, disgraced, and what will I do? I am not a thief, my family, what can I do? But at heart I am not a thief. I might have robbed your safes, but a kind God gave strength to resist. If God will give me the strength, it shall be my life's work to try to repay. So if my good father will pardon me, and you will spare me eternally I will go to work at whatever I may find and begin again; not in St. Louis, but alone, among strangers, by some other name. Spare me for God's sake, for my family's sake. And oh, my God, what will I do? I am not a thief, my family, what can I do? But at heart I am not a thief. I might have robbed your safes, but a kind God gave strength to resist. If God will give me the strength, it shall be my life's work to try to repay. So if my good father will pardon me, and you will spare me eternally I will go to work at whatever I may find and begin again; not in St. Louis, but alone, among strangers, by some other name. Spare me for God's sake, for my family's sake. And oh, my God, what will I do? I am not a thief, my family, what can I do? 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